

OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF BRANDS
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MEDICINE HAT, ALTA.

MEMORANDUM

1. **BRANDS AS EVIDENCE OF OWNERSHIP.** The presence of a brand on any animal is prima facie evidence of ownership.

2. **PENALTIES.** Any person who brands or assists in branding any stock with an unrecorded brand, or who brands with his own brand any stock of which he is not the owner, without the authority of the owner, or blotches, defaces, or alters any brand, renders himself liable to a penalty of \$200.

3. **CATTLE BRANDS.** (a) Cattle brands for the right or left shoulder, ribs and hip are allotted in the order of application upon a system that permits of the prompt allotment and issue of certificates. Cattle brands as now allotted, are composed of three carefully selected characters, the shape and pattern of which and the arrangement thereof is determined by the Minister of Agriculture upon the recommendation of the Brand Commissioners. All applications for cattle brands should distinctly state the position on the animal for which the applicant desires to have the brand recorded.

(b) Brands for the right or left jaw and neck of cattle may be chosen by the applicant in the manner explained in paragraph 4 dealing with "Horse Brands."

The fee for allotting these brands is \$1, which must accompany all applications.

(c) Upon payment of a fee of \$1.50 applicants may have allotted to them a cattle brand of their own choice, providing it does not conflict with brands already recorded. (N.B.—It should be borne in mind when making application under this sub-section that it is practically impossible to record brands consisting of only a single character.)

4. **HORSE BRANDS.** Any horse brand selected by the applicant (which may, of course, be a brand already registered for cattle), may be recorded, provided it is found that it does not conflict with brands already recorded. The fee for such is \$1, to be sent with application. It is absolutely necessary when forwarding such an application to describe plainly the brand desired and also position on animal preferred. In order to save unnecessary delay and correspondence all applications should contain a list of at least five further designs marked "second choice," etc., so that a selection may be made from these, in case the first choice cannot be accepted. It might also be mentioned that the brands consisting of arbitrary signs now on the books are very numerous and there is, therefore, very little chance of obtaining such. The safest brands to apply for are combinations of two or more characters.

5. **VENTS.** No vents are being recorded in view of the fact that the Brand Act provides uniform vents. The vent for any brand registered, in accordance with paragraph 3, (a) of this memorandum, is either a second impression thereof on the same side of the animal, or an impression of a letter, or a numeral of the brand placed horizontally (lazy) below the brand. The vent for any other brand in the absence of any special recorded vent, is the second impression of the brand on the same side of the animal.

6. **HOOF MARKS AND EAR TAGS.** Brands for the hoof and ear tags may be recorded for horses and cattle upon payment of a fee of \$1. The selection of the design is left to the applicant.

7. **SEARCHES AND CERTIFICATES.** The fee for making searches of the brand records is 25 cents for each brand. If a certified extract from the records is required, a fee of 50 cents is charged.

8. **CHANGES.** Changes not conflicting with previously recorded brands, nor inconsistent with the provisions of the Act may be made in the designs of any recorded brand or in the position thereof on the animal. The fee for such is \$1.

9. **TRANSFERS.** Transfers of any recorded brand will be registered when application is made in proper form and accompanied by the fee of \$1. Transfers of a brand for horses as well as cattle will be considered two distinct transactions. A separate form of transfer will be filed for the transfer of each brand. Transfer papers must be witnessed by a Justice of the Peace, Notary Public or Commissioner for taking Affidavits. Transfer forms may be had upon application to the Recorder.

10. **MOVEMENT OF STOCK.** Before any person proceeds to move stock for any distance, 20 miles or more from his home, except for shipment to or from a railway point, he must provide himself with the Brand Recorder's Certificate of the brand on the animals; a declaration before a Justice of the Peace; or a bill of sale bearing the brand of the animals so being moved. Any drover or person in charge of stock failing to comply with these requirements or who refuses to allow inspection of such stock by any person shall be liable to a penalty of \$100.

11. **REMITTANCE OF FEES.** All fees should be remitted by Postal Note, Post Office Order, Express Order, Bank Draft or Registered Letter. Where cheques are sent these should be marked by the bank on which they are drawn AND MADE PAYABLE AT PAR AT MEDICINE HAT. Money orders and cheques should be made payable to the Recorder of Brands. No application can be dealt with until the fee is in the hands of the Recorder.

JAMES WILSON,

Recorder of Brands.